

REMARKS

Claims 14-16, 18, 20-28 remain pending in this application; claim 14 is the sole independent claim. Claims 14-16, 18, 20 and 23 have been amended and claims 24-28 have been added to better present the invention to the Examiner.

Additionally, Applicant thanks the Examiner for initialing the references disclosed in the March 4, 2003 IDS filing as requested by Applicant in the November 5, 2003 Response To Office Action. However, the list of references from the Notice of References Cited form PTO-892 (one page) included in the March 4, 2003 IDS filing remains uninitialed; Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner initial this list of references in order to provide a record of the Examiner's consideration of those references.

CONCLUSION

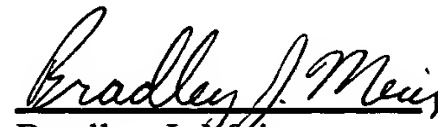
It is respectfully submitted that, in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the application is in clear condition for allowance. Issuance of a Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited.

Although not believed necessary, the Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or § 1.17 or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at 202-220-4200 to discuss any matter regarding this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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Bradley J. Meier
(Reg. No. 44,236)

KENYON & KENYON
1500 K Street, N.W., Suite 700
Washington, D.C. 20005
(202) 220 - 4200 (telephone)
(202) 220 - 4201 (facsimile)